



and subsequent removal of the protective groups and hydrolysis of the oxazolidine ring.--

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Marked up versions of all revised paragraphs showing insertions and deletions are included in Appendix B.

Replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 1 with the following text:

--TECHNICAL FIELD

A2 The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of taxanes from 10-deacetylbaccatin III.--

Replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 3 with the following text:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A3 Paclitaxel is a known antitumor drug with taxan structure, whose industrial preparation is particularly complex.--

Replace the paragraph starting at page 2, line 30 with the following text:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A4 It has now been found a process for the preparation of taxanes, in particular Paclitaxel and Docetaxel, which attains a higher yield than known methods.--

Replace the paragraph starting at page 5, line 1 with the following text:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

A5 The process of the invention differs from those of the prior art in that the reaction sequence used provides a simpler route than those processes cited above and a remarkable improvement in the obtained yields.--